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ind, STReport further pledges to maintain the reader confidence that has been

developed over the years and to continue "living up to such". All we ask is t

hat our readers make certain the manufacturers, publishers etc., know exactly

where the information about their products appeared. In closing, we shall ar

duously endeavor to meet and further develop the high standards of strai

ght forwardness our readers have come to expect in each and every issue.

The Publisher, Staff & Editors

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of six numbers with 2 four # matches and 7 three # matches From the Editor's

Desk... This is going to be a short issue due to time constraints. But I

might add.. There hot news in the woodwork. You'll see it all unfold this comi

ng week. Watch for an STReport exclusive. In the meantime, I like many others

these days is goin' fishing. I'll be gone for a short while. I'll let you know

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STReport Headline News

LATE BREAKING INDUSTRY-WIDE NEWS

Weekly Happenings in the Computer World Compiled by: Dana P. Jacobson Apple Users Like Microsoft Deal An overwhelming majority of corporate Macintosh users are in favor of Microsoft Corp.'s \$150 million investment in Apple Computer Inc., according to a survey conducted by the trade journal Computerworld. The publication's survey of 104 corporate Apple users finds that 93 percent believe that a truce between Microsoft and Apple is a good thing for Apple. The respondents also agree that the appointment of Oracle Corp. Chairman Larry Ellison to Apple's board is a good move, but they were less decisive when asked if they would approve of Steve Jobs as chairman of Apple Computer. Only 36 percent of the users surveyed felt Jobs should hold the position, while 31 percent said no and 34 percent were undecided. Respondents also split on the question of whether Apple's adoption of Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser is a good thing for Apple, with 47 percent approving, 41 disapproving and 12 percent undecided. Ax Falls on Apple Perk s The ax has fallen at Apple Computer Inc. on sabbaticals, cash bonuses for executives and generous severance pay and the man wielding it is co-founder Steve Jobs, who is calling on the company's "egalitarian, entrepreneurial" heritage. Announcing the changes in an electronic mail memo to employees earlier this week, Jobs also calls for more modest travel arrangements and continued consolidation of employees. The Associated Press characterizes the memo, which was signed "Steve and the Executive Team," as "the latest evidence that Jobs is essentially running the company he co-founded 21 years ago -- despite his refusal of the chairman and chief executive officer's posts." As reported, Apple's board of directors has ousted chairman/CEO Gil Amelio and last week replaced most of its board and announced an alliance with Microsoft Corp. Said Jobs in his memo, "Today we are taking a few more steps which will begin to take Apple back to its roots as a more egalitarian, entrepreneurial company." He said the company is: '• Eliminating cash bonuses for executives, replacing them with stock options. '• Reducing severance pay to one week of salary for every year worked at Apple from one month of pay for every year worked. Employees still get a 60-day notice with full pay and benefits. '• Now requiring all employees to fly coach on trips shorter than 10 hours and business class for longer trips. Employees can pay for their own upgrades or use mileage awards. '• Eliminating sabbaticals, a perk it adopted early on and a popular benefit w

ith employees. Said Jobs, "Apple needs all hands on deck for the foreseeable future as we turn our company's fortunes around." Apple spokesman Katie Cotton told the wire service that while some employees might be disappointed by some changes, "there's a widespread understanding that the company has to take steps to cut costs and tighten business wherever possible."

Apple Clones Makers Note Silence Nerves are jangling in the computer cloning business, because Apple Computer Inc. still has not made it clear whether it will continue licensing its Macintosh operating system. The New York Times noted this morning that at last week's MacWorld Expo trade show Apple executives were nearly silent on the issue, which is considered of strategic importance to the company. The Times observes the absence of any straight answers on the issue is fueling speculation that Apple seems to think the clones do Apple more harm than good. These days, clones account for one out of every five Macintosh computers sold.

Steve Jobs Dumped Apple Stock Time magazine is reporting Steve Jobs dumped all but one share of his stock in Apple Computer in June. That was two months before Apple's surprise alliance with Microsoft Corp. and the coup that changed the company's board of directors. In its Aug. 18 issue, Time reports Jobs, now a member of a reshuffled Apple board, holds only a single share as a symbolic gesture. Time quotes Jobs as saying, "I pretty much had given up hope that the Apple board was going to do anything. If that upsets employees, I'm perfectly happy to go home to Pixar." United Press International notes the 1.5 million shares of stock Jobs sold in June were worth \$22 million at the time. "If he had hung on to those shares," the wire service adds, "they would be worth about \$38 million as of Friday." Apple stock has been on the rise after last week's announcement that a new Apple board includes Jobs and Larry Ellison, founder and chief executive of Oracle. Microsoft also announced that it would invest \$150 million in Apple, or about 7 percent of the computer maker's worth. The 42-year-old Jobs, who co-founded Apple 21 years ago with Steve Wozniak, returned to the company as an advisor in December when Apple bought his Next Software Inc.

Adds UPI, "When he turned down the position of chief executive after the departure of Gil Amelio, Jobs said his 'heart, mind and body' are at Pixar, the Richmond-based animation company that produced the all computer-animated film 'Toy Story.'"

Professor: Net Changing Politics Like earlier technology breakthroughs -- such the telegraph, telephone, radio and television -- the Internet already has led to the transformation of political organizations by easing the flow of communication, says a University of Illinois professor. And, says Michael Ward, grass roots lobbying from citizens using the Net could change the federal government's day-to-day regulatory and legislative decision-making process. Speaking with United Press International in Urbana, Illinois, Ward said wider access to, and use of, the Internet creates the potential for closer communication between elected officials and their constituents, without the intercession of a large interest group. Faced with the views of their constituents, he said, "Policy makers will be less able to pander to the traditional interest groups." He added that if Net use expands throughout the population, Ward says it might lead to a reduction in returns, and consequently, resources devoted to professional political lobbying, "however, until Internet usage is substantially broadened, those groups that are disproportionately represented in the Internet -- high income, professional, educated, white and male -- are likely to fare better in the political decision process."

California Bill to Test Teachers A California bill now moving to the governor for approval would require the state's teacher to demonstrate their competency in classroom computer use. United Press International says the bill, sponsored by San Rafael Democrat Assemblywoman Kerry Mazzoni, "responds to a survey that found only 15 percent of teachers nationwide have had at least nine hours of training in computer technology." The measure has support of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, state schools chief Delaine Eastin and the American Electronics Association. Under the bill, the commission would be authorized to revise its standards for computer competency for the professional multiple or single subject teaching credential to select advanced computer-based technology. "Credentialing commission staff members," says UPI, "found in a recent study that the current education technolo

gy requirement fails to cover teachers who may be in classrooms for up to five years before acquiring any computer competency. Mazzino says teachers need the required training to keep pace with increased public and private investment in education technology."

Tax Break for Computer Donations Companies donating computers to schools within two years of purchase will be allowed to deduct the full price of the systems, thanks to a new tax law change. The 21st Century Classrooms Act, signed into law Tuesday by President Clinton, is expected to stimulate a flood of donated computers. "Smart companies will rush to accelerate their purchasing cycle to turn over their computers every two years," says Diana Detwiler, executive director of the Detwiler Foundation Computers for Schools Program, the largest supplier of donated computers to California schools. "The tax deduction they get for donating to schools is so large that it pays a good portion of the cost of buying their new computers." Further details are available on the Web page operated by Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, R-California, the legislation's author. Visit <http://www.house.gov/cunningham> and look under "What's New."

Judge Upholds Child Porn Law A federal judge in San Francisco has upheld an expanded federal child pornography law that bans computer-generated sexual images of children and porn that features adults who are depicted as minors. U.S. District Judge Samuel Conti rejected by sex film distributors and the American Civil Liberties Union in saying the new law protects children from sexual exploitation without violating freedom of speech, reports Associated Press writer Bob Egelko. In this first court ruling on the law's validity, the judge wrote, "Even if no children are involved in the production of sexually explicit materials, the devastating ... effect that such materials have on society and the well-being of children merits the regulation of such images." Dismissing ACLU concerns that the law could criminalize a film of "Romeo and Juliet" or a doctor's sex education manual, Conti said the law covers only pictures that are marketed as child pornography. Following the ruling, ACLU lawyer Ann Brick, who filed a supporting brief, said the law was broader than Conti made it out to be, adding Congress did not merely ban computer-generated images of children in sexual activities, but also declared that it was "illegal to use young-looking adults if we don't like the way you marketed it." Brick said the rationale used by Congress and Conti -- that the images would help molesters recruit young victims -- would apply equally to "literature that describes sex in a way that makes it seem beautiful." AP notes the law was passed last September to enlarge the federal definition of child pornography, which previously covered only erotic pictures of actual minors. Although such material may not be legally obscene, its prohibition has been upheld by the Supreme Court to prevent sexual exploitation of minors. "The new law," says Egelko, "applies to computer-generated images as well as films and photographs. It bans any visual depiction that 'is, or appears to be, of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.'" He adds distributors of sexually explicit pictures of adults who appear to be minors can avoid conviction if they can show that they did not advertise or present the material in a way that would "convey the impression" that it showed sexual acts by a minor. That defense would not apply to computer simulations. In their suit, a group of more than 600 adult film producers and distributors argued the law was so broadly worded that it could cover any picture in which an adult portrays a minor engaged in sexual activity. The suit said terms like "appears to be" and "convey the impression" are so loose that it would be difficult to know what material was illegal. However, the judge said any ambiguity in those terms "can be resolved by examining whether the work was marketed and advertised as child pornography." AP says the ACLU argued the only justification for a child pornography ban recognized by the Supreme Court is the prevention of harm to children used in the production of such material. But Conti quoted congressional language in saying such laws also can seek to stop molesters from whetting their appetite with pornography and using it to break down their victims' resistance -- effects that do not depend on the use of actual children in the production.

Publishers' CD Rights Upheld A federal judge has ruled publishers may reproduce articles by freelance writers in electronic databases and CD-ROMs without their permission. In New York, U.S. District Judge Sonia Sotomayer r

uled it is not the fault of publishers that technology had provided them an unexpected way to make money in a manner unforeseen by Congress. Associated Press writer Larry Neumeister says the ruling came in a lawsuit brought by six freelance writers against The New York Times Co., Newsday Inc., Time Inc., The Atlantic Monthly Co., Mead Data Central Corp. and University Microfilms Inc. Now grounds for appeal are being studied, by says president Jonathan Tasini of the National Writer's Union, lead plaintiff, who added, "The fight for a fair share continues. When multimillion-dollar media companies make a dollar from the sweat of their contributors' brows, those creators deserve to share in the profits." Defense attorney Bruce P. Keller contested the assumption that there is a windfall for publishers because of new technology, saying, "This case involves the 1990s equivalent of microfilm. It is very important but it is not an enormous gang-busters market. It's not been a windfall for publishers and it's not likely to be a windfall." The defendants argued electronic reproductions of their articles were improper under the federal Copyright Act, alleging their rights were violated with 21 articles sold for publication between 1990 and 1993. The judge ruled the act -- written during the 1960s and early 1970s to protect freelance writers from having their work sold by publishers for lucrative movie or television deals -- does give publishers the right "to revise their collective works." She said that at right is "then perceived to have only limited economic value" but technological changes have since made it more valuable. But it may not be over yet. Neumeister observed, "With the increasing popularity of the Internet and importance of electronic publishing, both sides in the lawsuit predicted the judge's ruling would not be the final word on the conflict between freelancers and publishers." Sympathizing with the argument by freelancers that Congress never intended for publishers to receive a windfall from new technology, the judge wrote, "This may well be. If today's result was unintended, it is only because Congress could not have fully anticipated the ways in which modern technology would create such lucrative markets for revisions."

Raid Strikes Singapore

Pirates The Business Software Alliance says the pirate CD-ROM industry "could come to a grinding halt in Southeast Asia" following a major 15-hour raid on what it says is a major player in the illegal software business. Targeted by Singapore detectives and industry experts were the CD-ROM manufacturing operations of stock market listed SM Summit Holdings. Reporter Jacqueline Wong of the Reuters News Service, reporting from Singapore, says the Stock Exchange of Singapore suspended trade in SM Summit shares after they plunged nearly 38 percent to \$0.655, down S\$0.39. "They began falling," Wong reports, "when market rumors named it as the target of a raid, then plunged when the BSA confirmed that. The raid was a major operation, involving experts from the United States, Australia and Hong Kong as well as Singapore." Reuters says the Singapore High Court then gave approval for the raid by the detectives accompanied by experts from the BSA and the three American companies. BSA says that while piracy rates have fallen in Asia as a whole -- often from very high bases -- they have risen six percentage points in Singapore, from 53 percent in 1995 to 59 percent in 1996.

Digital Wants to Sell Net Unit Digital Equipment Corp.'s computer-network equipment business is up for sale. Citing people familiar with the situation, reporter Jon G. Auerbach of The Wall Street Journal says Digital is seeking to sell the unit in the face of stiffer competition. The Journal says the computer maker sees the unit as a growing cash drain that would take a huge investment to revive. So far talks about the unit's sale have been held with Bain Capital Inc. and Lucent Technologies, the paper says, quoting industry insiders as saying Sun Microsystems also would be a logical buyer for the business. Digital's Network Product unit, which employs about 1,200 people, reportedly had about \$100 million in operating profit in the company's fiscal year ended in June 1996, but slipped into the red in the fiscal year just ended, Auerbach reports. The unit makes switches and other equipment used to build corporate computer networks.

FrontPage 98 Beta Released Microsoft Corp. is offering a pre-release version of FrontPage 98, the latest version of its Web site creation and management tool. Microsoft says the updated software offers intelligent design assistance, expanded site management functions and compatibility with the la

test Web technologies. "Our goal with FrontPage has always been to bring the power of Web publishing to the broadest possible set of users," says Chris Peters, vice president of Microsoft's Web authoring unit. "With FrontPage 98 we will meet the needs of both beginners and advanced users by delivering a comprehensive Web creation and management tool that is easy to use, yet powerful and flexible enough to support the latest Web technologies." A free copy of the FrontPage 98 beta is now available at <http://www.microsoft.com/frontpage/>. The software can also be ordered on CD-ROM for a nominal shipping and handling charge. The software expires and becomes unusable on Dec. 31.

Europe OKs

Compaq-Tandem Deal In Brussels, Belgium, antitrust authorities with the European Union today gave their blessing to Compaq Computer Corp.'s takeover of Tandem Computers Inc., saying the fusion of the U.S. companies won't hurt competition in Europe. In a statement, the European Commission said, "The overlaps between the two companies' activities ... were not such as to give rise to competition concerns." The Associated Press notes the commission has powers to review large mergers or acquisitions that will affect EU markets, including those involving only non-European companies. "It can ask for changes to deals it judges harmful to fair competition within the 15 nations in the European Union and impose heavy fines on companies that don't comply," AP adds. Compaq, the world's biggest PC maker, announced in June it would purchase Tandem in a \$3 billion stock deal that boosts Compaq's bid to expand beyond PCs into more powerful business machines.

Broderbund Updates Print Shop Line Broderbund Software Inc. is adding five new products to The Print Shop series, including The Print Shop Premier Edition 5.0, a completely revamped version of its classic product. Broderbund's new Windows 95 software slate also features The Print Shop Publishing Suite, a product that combines The Print Shop Premier Edition 5.0 and The Print Shop PressWriter; and The Print Shop Signature Greetings, a tool that allows consumers to create high quality greeting cards at home and deliver them online. Other new titles include The Print Shop LiveMail, an Internet communications program that enlivens E-mail messages with animation, sound and graphics; and The Print Shop Standard Edition, an introductory consumer graphics product. "This is truly the next generation of The Print Shop series. The Print Shop Premier Edition 5.0 has been completely redesigned to be the easiest and best desktop publishing tool for home and small business users," says Harry Wilker, senior vice president of the Novato, California, software publisher. The Print Shop Premier Edition 5.0 (\$49.95), The Print Shop Publishing Suite (\$69.95), The Print Shop Signature Greetings (\$29.95) and The Print Shop Standard Edition (\$29.95) are shipping to stores now. The Print Shop LiveMail is set to become available in October for \$29.95.

Iomega Readies Color Zip Disks Taking the lead of floppy disk makers, Iomega Corp. has unveiled color versions of its 100MB Zip disks. The Roy, Utah, company's \$149.95 "Gig-O-Color" 10-pack includes disk pairs in green, red, gold, blue and gray. "Gig-O-Color Zip disks are for the computer user who likes to stay organized -- but also likes a little flair," says Jackie Finch, Iomega's product line manager for Zip media and accessories. "They provide creative, high capacity storage." The Gig-O-Color Zip pack is expected to ship this fall. Visit Iomega's Web site at <http://www.iomega.com>.

Online Ads to Top \$7.7B in 2002 A new research report is predicting that advertising spending on the Internet and online services will reach \$7.7 billion in 2002, up from \$301 million last year. Compiled by the New York communications research group by Jupiter Communications, the forecast, says the Reuter News Service, "is generally in line with other predictions, which show a rapid increase in ad spending as more people go online and advertising models become more refined." Jupiter predicts revenue from direct marketing on the Internet and over online services will grow from \$13 million in 1996 to \$1.3 billion in 2002. Reuters notes a recent report from Cowles/Simba Information, a unit of Cowles Business Media, projected that online advertising spending would reach \$538.2 million this year and \$2.57 billion by 2000. The Internet Advertising Bureau has reported that first-quarter 1997 online advertising revenues were \$129.5 million, an 18 percent jump over fourth quarter 1996 levels. Nonetheless, Reuters says one panelist at the conference -- Norman Lehoullier, co-director of Grey

Interactive -- thought the projections were "very optimistic," observing that many companies are still trying to figure out the best way to market on the online medium.

McVeigh formally sentenced to death for bombing Convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh was formally sentenced to death Thursday for the 1995 explosion that killed 168 people and brought political terror to America's heartland. Before being sentenced, McVeigh broke his courtroom silence to read a cryptic one-sentence quote from the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis: "Our government is the potent and omnipresent teacher for good or for ill, it teaches the whole people by its example." Then he added, "That's all I have to say."

Mayor: Police shakeup after alleged attack Top police officers were reassigned Thursday in a shakeup at a police precinct where a Haitian immigrant was allegedly beaten and sodomized with a toilet plunger. The immigrant, Abner Louima, remained in a hospital in critical and guarded condition after the alleged attack Saturday at the precinct in the city's Brooklyn borough. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani warned police at the 70th Precinct not protect their fellow officers. Louima, 30, told investigators he was arrested in a late-night brawl outside a nightclub.

Suspect in Detroit killings falls from window A suspect in the stabbing deaths of five people either jumped or fell from a fifth floor window Thursday at Detroit Police headquarters and landed on the steps at the front of the building, police said. The man was rushed in to surgery at a Detroit hospital in critical condition, a hospital spokeswoman said. Detroit police spokeswoman Allene Ray would not identify the man, who was being questioned at the time of the incident. The five victims were found Wednesday morning in a home on Detroit's west side.

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A T T E N T I O N-A T T E N T I O N-A T T E N T I O N Shareware Treasure Chest STR Feature "The Latest & Greatest"

Shareware Treasure Chest By Lloyd E. Pulley lepulley@streport.com See y'all next week.. EDUPAGE STR Focus Keeping the users informed

Edupage Contents Blackout In New England Motorola Expands Chip Venture In China UUNet Moves To Limit Spam Internet Site Blamed For Hurting CIA ACM Opens Its Digital Library Vonnegut Comments On Internet Hoax Computer Vandals Charged With Crimes No Surfing On The Senate Floor Apple Polishing Digital Wants To Sell Its Network Equipment Group Opposition To FBI Wire-Tapping Plan Taking Stock Of Apple Faculty Interaction: Sometimes Necessary, Sometimes Not The Chinese PC Market Ameritech Tests Make MCI Testy WWWooing New Customers Freelancers Lose To Publishers Over Electronic Reproduction Oracle's Plans For Integrating Web With TV Sony, Philips, And HP Want To Do It Their Own DVD-RAM Way

Leading Software Companies An Extension Of Life For "Moore's Law"? Intel Counter
sues Digital Babes In Boyland

BLACKOUT IN NEW ENGLA

ND More than 200 New England businesses experienced a four-hour Internet blacko
ut Thursday evening after an explosion knocked out electrical power in the Bost
on area. One person was killed in the blast, which overloaded a panel switch a
t MIT, causing a fire and cutting off Internet access to BBN Planet customers.
Access resumed around 10:00 in the evening. The speed with which the incident h
appened made it impossible to reroute traffic, said a BBN spokesman. (TechWir
e 8 Aug 97)

MOTOROLA EXPANDS CHIP VENTURE IN CHINA Motorola
is ramping up its chip activities in China to develop products such as power sem
iconductor devices and integrated circuits. The company has already spent \$50
million on phases one and two of its semiconductor venture, and phase three is
expected to cost \$200 million more. (Investor's Business Daily 8 Aug 97)

UUNET MOVES TO LIMIT SPAM After a group of vigilante compute
r users blocked 80,000 e-mail messages in a 24-hour period, Internet service pr
ovider UUNet is moving to limit the number of junk e-mail messages it transmits
to Usenet groups. (Investor's Business Daily 8 Aug 97)

INTERNET SITE BLAMED FOR HURTING CIA A Central Intelligence Agency report says tha
t the Web site called Gulflink -- created by the Defense Department to give Gu
lf War veterans possible explanations for health problems developed after the wa
r - may have provided the Iraqis with clues to the identity of individuals who p
rovided intelligence information to the U.S. The report said that documents po
sted on the site were not adequately reviewed before being made generally availa
ble on the Internet. < <http://www.Gulflink.osd.mil/> > (New York Times 8 Aug 97
)

ACM OPENS ITS DIGITAL LIBRARY The Association of Comp
uting Machinery (ACM) is providing free public access to its Digital Library dur
ing an "open house" lasting through September 30, 1997. The library contains t
ables of contents of twenty ACM journals and more than 400 conference proceeding
s. Full texts of selected articles and conference proceedings are also availab
le. (Communications of the ACM Jul 97) < <http://www.acm.org/dl> >

VONNEGUT COMMENTS ON INTERNET HOAX What conclusion is drawn by novelist K
urt Vonnegut about the Internet hoax falsely attributing to him a speech he had
n't written or delivered? "Some jerk infected the Internet with an outright lie.
It shows how easy it is to do and how credulous people are." The "MIT commence
ment address" that Vonnegut never gave was actually an essay written by Chicago
Tribune columnist Mary Schmich (whom Vonnegut has praised). The essay began:
"Ladies and gentlemen of the class of 1997: Wear sunscreen." The origins and
purpose of the hoax have not yet come to light. (AP 7 Aug 97)

COMPUTER VANDALS CHARGED WITH CRIMES Prosecutors in Fairfax County, Virginia,
have filed criminal charges against two Georgia Mason University students for
hacking their way into university computers and sending derogatory e-mail under
the names of random students and staff members. Altering computer data is a fel
ony and willfully using a computer network without is a misdemeanor. (Washingt
on Post 8 Aug 97)

NO SURFING ON THE SENATE FLOOR Senator
Michael B. Enzi (R., Wyoming) wants to use his laptop on the floor of the U.S.
Senate, but many of his colleagues are opposed to the idea. Senator Diane Feins
tein (D., California) says: "I'm not against computers, but I think they have t
heir place and it's not everywhere. When you're speaking on the Senate floor, y
ou should be speaking from a lifetime of experience, not from what you punch up
on a computer." Senator Robert G. Torricelli (D., New Jersey) agrees: "The en
try of an electronic notebook on the floor of the United States Senate will ine
vitably lead to staff instructions on voting and the scripting of all remarks."

And the idea makes Senator Robert C. Byrd (D., Virginia) positively cranky: "
What will be the next step if we take this? I would be a bit irritable, I thin
k, if I looked around and saw someone sitting beside me, typing on this thing."
(New York Times 10 Aug 97)

APPLE POLISHING Apple
is rehiring TBWA Chiat/Day, the ad agency responsible for the famous "1984" com
mercial that introduced Apple's Macintosh computers in the mid- eighties. The
ad suggested that using a Mac was a blow for freedom in an Orwellian "Big Broth
er" world dominated by IBM. The company (then known as Chiat/Day of Venice, Ca

lifornia) was fired in 1985 after it produced an unsuccessful Apple commercial depicting non-Mac- using business executives as "lemmings" lining up to jump off a cliff. (USA Today 8-10 Aug 97)

DIGITAL WANTS TO SELL ITS NETWORK EQUIPMENT GROUP Digital Equipment Corporation has been talking with possible buyers of its network equipment unit, which makes switches and other network devices in competition with companies such as Cisco Systems. Possible purchasers for the 1200-employee unit include Bain Capital (a Boston buyout firm) and Lucent Technologies -- the equipment manufacturer created from the AT&T spinoff. (Wall Street Journal 11 Aug 97)

OPPOSITION TO FBI WIRE-TAPPING PLAN Privacy advocates, along with telephone companies, are challenging an FBI-developed plan that would require modification of the nation's phone system to give law enforcement agencies the ability to retain wiretapping capabilities in the digital age. Opponents of the FBI-proposed standard say it would allow the government to exceed its authority by letting enforcement agencies capture the full content of phone communications when wire-tapping authority is restricted to interception of merely the addressing or signaling data. (New York Times 11 Aug 97)

TAKING STOCK OF APPLE Ten days before the resignation of Apple chief executive Gil Amelio earlier this month, company co-founder and special advisor Steve Jobs sold 1.5 million shares of Apple stock in a trade that contributed to the stock's decline to its lowest point of the year. Since Jobs was not an officer or director of the company and not a majority shareholder, he was not required to disclose the sale. Jobs recently told Time magazine: "I pretty much had given up hope that the Apple board was going to do anything. I didn't think the stock was going up." about a week after unloading the shares he called Microsoft CEO Bill Gates to tell him that Amelio was about to be forced out of the company. Asked about his maneuvering Jobs says: "If that upsets employees, I'm perfectly happy to go home to Pixar," the digital animation company where he serves as chief executive. (San Jose Mercury News 12 Aug 97)

FACULTY INTERACTION: SOMETIMES NECESSARY, SOMETIMES NOT Comparing higher education to national health care, Educom vice president Mike Roberts told the Washington Post: "The doctors wouldn't do anything about controlling costs by themselves, and things finally got so bad that they took the control away from them. The faculty need to face up to those aspects of learning that really require interaction with a faculty member and those that don't." As examples, Roberts mentioned introductory freshman and remedial-level courses in composition, math, science and language s. (Washington Post 10 Aug 97)

THE CHINESE PC MARKET China has overtaken South Korea as the largest market for personal computers in the Asia-Pacific region, according to a Dataquest report. Legend, mainland China's largest producer of personal computers, sold 100,000 PCs in the second quarter of this year, and the president of Intel in China recently predicted that within a few years China will be the that company's third largest market after the U.S. and Japan. (Financial Times 12 Aug 97)

AMERITECH TESTS MAKE MCI TESTY Long-distance phone company MCI Communications wants the Federal Communications Commission to stop local phone service provider Ameritech from testing its own long-distance capabilities in the same area in which it offers local phone service. In the test, Chicago-based regional Bell operating system Ameritech is giving free long-distance service to its own employees. Ameritech argues that, since it is not charging for the service and not offering it to the public, the tests do not require FCC approval. (Atlanta Journal-Constitution 12 Aug 97)

WWWOOING NEW CUSTOMERS A number of Web sites are busy planning advertising campaigns this Fall to make themselves known as media brands (such as CBS, NBC, MTV, etc.) that will stick in the public mind. Using radio, print and outdoor advertising, the campaigns will mainly target novice computer users. (USA Today 11 Aug 97) Note: Edupage, a strictly low-budget enterprise, will content itself with a tasteful amount of soothing, mindless repetition to make its brand name memorable. Edupage. Are you ready for the quiz?

FREELANCERS LOSE TO PUBLISHERS OVER ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION A federal judge in Manhattan has ruled against freelance journalists who argued that publishers should not be allowed to

o reproduce their work on CD ROMs or in electronic databases without their permission and without paying them beyond what they were paid for the original material. At issue was whether or not electronic reproduction of that sort is essentially equivalent to archival versions of print media on microfilm, which are a publisher's right under the Copyright Act of 1976. The decision will be appealed. (New York Times 14 Aug 97)

ORACLE'S PLANS FOR INTEGRATING WEB WITH TV Oracle is planning to use a broadcasting technology called "the vertical blanking interval" - a space between TV signals that can be adapted for sending data - to automatically integrate data from the World Wide Web into TV programs in progress. One example of use for the system is that a person viewing, say, a football game could interact with other viewers through a Web-based chat session appearing in one window on the screen. (Wall Street Journal 13 Aug 97)

SONY, PHILIPS, AND HP WANT TO DO IT THEIR OWN DVD-RAM WAY Sony, Philips, and Hewlett-Packard have decided not to support the industry's proposed technical standard for reusable DVD-RAM disks that allow users to copy digital computer disks or record TV programming digitally. A Sony spokesman claims that the companies have superior technology that can store 3 billion bytes of information on a disk compared with the 2.6-billion byte standard proposed by the rest of the industry. Industry analyst Richard Doherty says that "the DVD-RAM market at present is computers, but everyone knows the big reward coming in 18 months to two years is the consumer video disk recorder." (New York Times 14 Aug 97)

LEADING SOFTWARE COMPANIES The ten leading companies in software revenue last year were (in descending order): IBM, Microsoft, Hitachi, Computer Associates, Oracle, Fujitsu, SAP, Bull HN Information Systems, Digital Equipment Corporation, and Novell. And of the top thirty companies, 37% are in California, 13% in Massachusetts, 10% in Pennsylvania, 7% in New York, and 33% in other states, provinces, and countries. (Investor's Business Daily 13 Aug 97)

AN EXTENSION OF LIFE FOR "MOORE'S LAW"? Texas-based Sematech consortium has developed a technique for replacing a chip's microscopic aluminum wiring with copper, which is a superior conductor of electricity and therefore able to allow data to travel much faster through the chip circuitry. The advance may extend the life of "Moore's Law" (declared by Intel Corp. co-founder Gordon Moore in 1965), which asserts that chip performance will double every 18 months. (San Jose Mercury News 13 Aug 97)

INTEL COUNTERSUES DIGITAL Intel has responded the patent-infringement charge made against it in May by Digital Equipment Corporation by filing a countersuit alleging that Digital's Alpha processors infringe on Intel patents dating back to 1984. Industry and legal analysts are speculating that the countersuit may set the stage for bringing the two parties to an out-of-court settlement. One lawyer not involved in the case says: "It's going to be nuclear winter before these passels of lawyers get done with each other. Now that they can see the magnitude of what they are going to do to each other, it is a good time for the businessmen to step in before things get out of control and see if they can reach a settlement." (New York Times 13 Aug 97)

BABES IN BOYLAND Is there sexism in Silicon Valley? Senior researcher Anita Borg in Palo Alto says: "You run into subtle sexism every day. It's like water torture. It wears you down." And Kim Polese, who left a big company to found the Web startup Marimba Inc. and join "Babes in Boyland" (an organization of female tech execs), says: "If you really want to shoot to the top, you probably have to start your own business." (BusinessWeek 18- 25 97)

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send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu and in the body of the message type: subscribe update John McCarthy (assuming that your name is John McCarthy; if it's not, substitute your own name). INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE The CAUSE organization's annual conference on information technology in higher education is scheduled for the end of this month in New Orleans.

The conference will bring together administrators, academicians and other managers of information resources. For full conference information check out <<http://cause-www.colorado.edu>> or send e-mail to conf@cause.colorado.edu. ARCHIVES

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The player themselves can change options to make gameplay more difficult or create new missions. If you wish for the aircraft to be invulnerable to crashes, these and many other options can be toggled in the game's setup menu. This will allow the player to fly in an almost unlimited amount of combat simulations and levels of difficulty. As I mentioned before, the point and click cockpit creates a simple atmosphere for most of the game. The mouse interface is most helpful during the actual combat you will face. However, iF-22 does become complicated just as most flight-combat sims. This game comes with a 162 page manual! It covers everything from taking off, combat, locking on to targets, and about everything else within the game. Needless to say, not everything within the manual

is needed to just fly around and shoot enemies. Most of the information in the booklet covers tactics and maneuvering. Inside there is a lot of info needed to know if you do want to fly your iF-22 through the whole missions. If you do not care to fly the plane to the waypoints or learn to takeoff and land, your aircraft does contain an autopilot feature. This will do most of navigating for you but of course takes the realism out of the game. iF-22 Raptor, is a monumental breakthrough in flight sims. It is a terrific game for your average flight sim gamer. The stereotypical, complicated controls may confuse some inexperienced pilots but they will get the hang of it after a while. Something that will not confuse anyone is the easy point and click interface that is used during the battle sequences during the game. Direct3D and the photo-realistic terrain are some thing that makes this game unique as well. When using the mission generator, you will realize that your missions are seemingly endless in their options. You can be as creative as you want while making your own missions too. iF-22 will prove to be a trendsetter to other flight sims in the future. I would recommend this game to any combating gamer that is looking for an easier approach to a flight simulation. Pick up a copy of Interactive Magic's iF-22 Raptor today!

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Please use a single font only in an article. TTF New Times Roman 12pt. is preferred. (VERY Strong Hint) If there are any questions please use either E-Mail or call. On another note. the ASCII version of STReport is fast approaching the "end of the line" As the major Online Services move away from ASCII..

So shall STReport. All in the name of progress and improved readability. The amount of reader mail expressing a preference for our Adobe PDF enhanced issue is running approximately 15 to 1 over the ASCII edition. I might add however, the requests for our issues to be done in HTML far outnumber both PDF and ascii. HTML is now under consideration. We'll keep you posted. Besides, STReport will not be caught in the old, worn out "downward compatibility dodge" we must move forward.

However, if the ASCII readership remains as high, rest assured. ASCII will stay. Right now, since STReport is offered on a number of closed major corporate Intranets as "required" Monday Morning reading.. Our ascii readers have nothing to worry themselves about. It looks like it is here to stay. Many grateful thanks in advance for your enthusiastic co-operation and input.

Ralph F. Mariano, Editor

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STReport International Online Magazine

Classics & Gaming Section Editor Dana P. Jacobson dpj@streport.com F
rom the Atari Editor's Desk "Saying it like it is!" When will the

madness end?!? Moving is one big pain and I haven't even moved into the new house yet! Packing, and more packing, and then some more... I have to keep telling myself that it will all be well worth it in the end and that this is just the beginning of some terrific times for my wife and I. And it will be. Keep on packing Dana....! It looks like CAB 2.5 will be released here in North America a lot sooner than anticipated - hopefully by the end of this month, or sooner. This should be a big plus for those who wish to be able to use commercial Internet providers for access but couldn't because of PPP limitations by the providers.

And those who utilize SLiP accounts can still do so with CAB 2.0 (or earlier) and STiK. Things are looking up for Atari users and the Web; and, Oregon Research

h's program as well as ASH's are still in the wings. We've got a lot of Stuff for you this week, so let's move forward. It will also provide me with a graceful exit and opportunity to get back to my packing! Until next time... From Delphi's Jim Collins (chro_MAGIC): Hi All, I have an update on the English version of CAB 2.5 - the HOPED for release date is "the end of August" - this is for both the full CAB 2.5 release and for the CAB 2.0 -> 2.5 upgrade kits. Please bear in mind that this "hoped for" date is when it will hit the street in the UK, it will take another week or so to get to the United States. Of course chro_MAGIC will have both the full version and the upgrade kits available just as soon as they arrive from the UK. Oh yeah, CAB 2.5 will cost more than 2.0 - and 2.0 will continue to be available for those who want to use STiK and/or don't need PPP.

Newsbytes NewsReel -- 12 Years Ago This Week MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, U.S.A., 1997 AUG 13 (Newsbytes) -- By Nick Gorski. Twelve years ago these Newsbytes stories were filed: DG Goes "Compatible;" Cut Some Slack Jack; Japanese Mac From Canon; and Apple To Break South African Sanctions. These stories were taken from the extensive archives at the Newsbytes Website at <http://www.newsbytes.com>. DG Goes "Compatible" Data General, DEC's arch-competitor, joined the PC "compatible" sweepstakes last week with the announcement of the Dasher/One Model 1. The unit has an 8088 microprocessor and runs MS-DOS, but DG isn't counting on selling them as stand-alone units. In an increasingly common tack among computer makers aiming at the business market, they will be selling the Dasher/One as a "workstation" hooked up to their Comprehensive Electronic Office System. The unit comes with a 12-inch monochrome monitor and a single 3.5-inch disk drive and sells for \$2,100. Meanwhile, in a move some observers feel presages a major move by DG into low-end personal computers, a former Epson executive has joined DG. Cliff Bream, formerly vice president of marketing for Epson, has moved from Torrance, California, to DG's headquarters in Westboro, Massachusetts, where he will be vice-president of DG's Desktop Division. Rumors are that Bream will attempt to increase sales of the Data/General One laptop, whose sales have been reportedly below DG expectations. Cut Some Slack, Jack A funny thing happens when you access ASCII positions 28-31 on the new Atari ST "Jackintosh" computer. You get a face. The face, buried in the ASCII character set, only occurs when you request print of numbers 28 through 31 side-by-side. The crewcut man's smiling face, pipe extended to the left, was originally thought to be Jack Tramiel. Another said it was Hugh Hefner. But no, that face appears to be none other than J.R. "Bob" Dobbs, High Epopt of the Church of the SubGenius. In case you still don't recognize that name, go into any bookstore and ask for "The Book of the SubGenius." "Bob" is the brainchild of a group of art students who wanted to invent a bogus religion based on flying saucers, lunatic conspiracy theories, and the occult. Among "His" (Bob's) slogans are "You'll PAY To Know What You REALLY Think," "Give Me Slack Or Kill Me" and, "F--- 'em If They Can't Take A Joke." An Atari source says "some crazy programmer" is responsible. He doesn't think Jack knows there's a Bobhead in the machine. Japanese Mac From Canon / Newsbytes Japan

The Japanese version of Macintosh called "DynaMac" has been developed by Canon, the Apple dealer in Japan (8/5). DynaMac is a version of a 512KB-Mac with a Kanji ROM and a Japanese interpreter-tool "Eg-Bridge" that provides Japanese language for the use of MacPaint and Multiplan. It will be available on Aug. 20 at US \$3,592. For the users of original Macintosh, Canon is planning to provide an upgrade service with some charge starting the end of September. Finally, the Mac language barrier has been removed. However, its costly price is very likely to create a new problem. Presently, a powerful 16-bit business computer in Japan costs US\$1,100, which is merely one-third of DynaMac. Meanwhile, ErgoSoft Inc., the company founded by Canon and Apple Japan, has developed Japanese wordprocessing software called "Advanced EgWord." This is a tremendous development because a whole sentence of simple Japanese fonts (Kana) can be automatically transformed into a Kanji sentence with this software. "Advanced EgWord" will be released in September, says an ErgoSoft spokesperson. Apple To Break South African Sanctions / Britbytes Apple's South African supplier, Base 2, claims that it will be bypassing sanctions against supply of computers to South Africa, by buying via the Far East or even direct from the US. The statement follows the announcement by App

le's international president in Paris earlier this month that retailing of their product in S.A. will cease. Base 2 counters Apple's reasoning behind the ban (which they say penalizes them for the sins of others) by saying that they train appreciable quantities of black workers - the current lack of which Apple says is behind the company decision to cease trading with South Africa. Base 2 says that discussions are under way with Far East companies based in Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan, whose economies are "hungry for dollars."

THE BIG SPIN by Donald A. Thomas, Jr. [datj@compuserve.com] (c)1997 - permission granted to distribute/reprint for non-profit

There are different types of spins. There is the spin around the block. There is the spin programmers use to rotate sprites in a video game. There are spins on the way stories are told. There are dance spins and toys that spin. There is also the BIG SPIN as it applies to the evolution of the computer industry. On Wednesday, August 6, Mr. Bill Gates and Mr. Steve Jobs cooperatively announced that Microsoft was contributing to Apple's bottom line with a monetary figure of \$150 million. Assuredly, there are undisclosed stipulations Microsoft is placing on that contemporary bailout, but Jobs says Microsoft wants to "own the industry". In theory, Microsoft now has influential control over Apple-based proprietary PCs as well as traditional IBM-compatible PCs. Microsoft will tell you that consumers deserve a choice and that they are protecting their investments in Apple-based applications by helping to revitalize the platform. It is as if the investment community does not care about the whys. They simply see "Microsoft" and "Apple" in the same press release and stock values bend up on the speculation. But, what are they speculating on? All they really know is that Apple's dike is being plugged by Microsoft. They know that Microsoft will benefit in some way by having some non-active shareholders in the company. If we spin the world back to 1994, Wednesday, September 28 to be exact, there was an announced \$90 million bailout Sega promised to Atari. Terms included Sega's acquisition of Atari shares, tentative agreements to exchange software titles and a forgiving of a pending lawsuit Atari had registered against Sega. Hmmm, what parallels exist there? Are there any? For \$150 million, has anyone bothered to find out? Some answers are revealed with an understanding of motivations. There are two types of motivations in making business decisions; both start with "P". They are "Performance" and "Pride". Companies get in serious trouble when these motivations are not spinning together in a synchronized balance. These two categories can be demonstrated by looking at advertising decisions. There are "institutional" ads. Those are advertisements that promote brand awareness, but lack any sense of urgency. For instance, there are no prices, no sales and no limitations on the act to purchase. An ad that simply states "Drink Coca-Cola" is an institutional ad. Institutional ads fall under the category of "Pride". If you run nothing but institutional ads and never give consumers motivation to buy now, the competition storms in with a strong price/value message and steals the consumer. A "Performance" orientated ad is one that creates some urgency. The ad is strictly placed to generate a measurable profit after backing out the cost of manufacturing, distribution and advertising. The ad features a sale price or a value message or places some type of "get it now or lose" theme such as limited edition collectable items. Running too many performance-oriented ads teaches the consumer to only buy the product when there is a deal. Companies need the "Performance" advertising to get people to often think about purchasing their product. A basic example is the decision to buy Coke or Pepsi in the grocery store. Many consumers will buy either one first based on price- secondly what they prefer. Personal preferences are statistically based on name recognition. Therefore, the institutional ads help to make decisions when the prices are virtually the same. Rather than dwell more deeply in the philosophies of business principles, let us look specifically at the motivations between Apple and Microsoft while keeping the philosophies in mind. Apple is in serious trouble. They have had consistent quarterly losses, write-offs and lay-offs. They are desperately trying to make "Performance" orientated decisions to compensate for the years and years of imbalance of a "pride" orientated business philosophy... decisions that successfully built a huge dedicated base of users, but failed to lure new generations of new users. Instead, novice purchasers were swayed by the app

eal of universal compatibility offered by the IBM clone. Microsoft, on the other hand, is so immensely successful that they very well may face litigation for forming a monopoly. They do not have a dire need to generate quick profits, but they do have a need to make sure the population is pleased with them as a company and for the products they sell. Imagine the problems if/when Apple fails and Microsoft seems to be standing over them with the dagger in their hands. In the long run, it is healthier for Microsoft's image to show they made every effort to help Apple be successful. Not to belittle the value of \$150 million, but Microsoft will not feel the loss. It can be compared to many of us buying a new microwave oven... we certainly have to juggle some finances around, but it won't come close to bankrupt most of us. On the flipside, \$150 million is a big bite of what Apple needs to survive and Microsoft (Gates) knows the public views \$150 million to be a great deal more than a couple annual salaries. So why did Microsoft give Apple the money? Last evening my wife and I had an occasion to stroll the Hillsdale shopping mall. I always enjoy ducking into a B. Dalton when I can and I did again. Predictably, the magazine rack was full of cover stories of the Apple/Microsoft deal. If it was not a picture of Bill Gates, there was a headline about him or Apple. I picked up three of them... BusinessWeek, Newsweek and Time. Each of them is chock full of stories that provide Gates and Jobs a forum to express their views. Just for fun, have any of you ever checked what it would cost to buy the cover of BusinessWeek, Newsweek, Time, every computer journal, newspaper as well as formidable exposure on television and radio? Assuredly, \$150 million would not make a down payment except, perhaps, with the agency placing the exposure. The sum of \$150 million was a bargain for the measure of "Pride"-oriented exposure the two companies are now enjoying. Microsoft certainly did not deliver \$150 million to Apple believing that Jobs already has a plan to turn things around. As of this writing, no one at Apple really knows who will be in charge. Jobs is making decisions now, but he makes it clear that he does not want to be the CEO. Jobs wants to remain faithful to his Pixar endeavors. He knows that the Apple problems are too big and he does not want to go down with the ship. On the other hand, Pixar is doing well and is a better career bet. Jobs does more than hint that facility and headcount downsizing is imminent. This should have been clear long ago anyway. Every business must bring expenditures to be below income. This provides us to another opportunity to spin back the hands of time. Let us return to Monday, July 2, 1984 and the takeover of Atari by the Jack Tramiel regime. At that time, Atari was losing hundreds of millions a year and Warner Communications was literally bleeding money and in desperate need to stop the crisis. Jack walked in and, almost overnight, offices and buildings were vacated. People left so fast that over \$100,000 in unsigned travelers checks were left in an unlocked safe in the finance office according to one takeover executive. The casualties of personnel and real estate proved to be a key part to Atari's saving grace. Within a few years, Jack made Atari profitable, transformed it into a publicly traded company and repaid Warner for all outstanding debts. In the mid to late eighties, PCs and Apples still cost a lot of money and Tramiel's Atari found success selling a new generation of 16/32-bit machines for a fraction of IBM-compatible investments... especially in Europe. But as IBM compatible prices dropped so did Atari's ability to be competitive and make money. All along the mass market really wanted 100% compatibility with office computers. When they became almost as affordable as Atari computers, they won the "Performance" war against any "Pride" that Atari's proprietary systems built with their users over the years. So now, we spin ahead again to present day. We see Apple hanging on to proprietary technologies just like Atari did. They are defending their niche markets in graphics and education just like Atari did in the music industry with integrated MIDI ports and with affordable desktop publishing solutions using Calamus or Pagestream. We know \$90 million did not save Atari when Sega gave it to them and we know there is historical proof that companies that attempt to sell proprietary closed environments such as (Atari, Commodore, Texas Instruments, Coleco Adam, Next, etc.) to the mass markets ultimately fail. The consumer wants his home applications to work at the office. The retailer does not want to carry multiple versions of like software. Software developers do not like having to provid

e like development and support functions for multiple platforms. Just spin the dial in history and these examples appear again and again. Another recurring spin is that technology companies fail to look at historic evidence to make decisions for the future. They too often feel what they have is so cool that everyone will want one, regardless of price compatibility, trend or overall business sense. It is enough to amaze anyone that Apple encounters a \$150 million windfall without having to expose a firm and conservative plan to turn things around... not just philosophical, but itemized actions. Actions that will expand the amount of Mac software exposure in retail stores. Actions that will inspire die-hard Apple users to give up the machines and buy new ones. Actions that attract new customers. Actions that attract new software developers. Actions that satisfy creditors. Yet again, \$150 million cannot do all these things, so we will have to see how Jobs applies his newfound capital assets. By looking at the industry spin over the years, Apple's charter should be quite clear with or without the infusion of \$150 million. They need to build affordable personal computers that are 100% cross compatible with the rest of the world. They need to cater to their established base with optional PC-compatible emulation cards that permit the use of Mac software. They need to divert their technologies to a strong software development plan based on a MS-Windows framework. Alternatively, they need to put 100% energies into a relatively small, yet focused high-end solution that will be out of reach to the mass market (a.k.a. Silicon Graphics). Steve Job's pride may prevail and insist on downsizing Apple to a model that he remembers in days when consumers were willing to consider incompatible platforms. He may downplay the corporate image of boardrooms and office formalities. Just like Jack Tramiel at Atari, he may not see that the world has spun around and has different buying trends than they did ten or more years ago.... that the money and power of IBM couldn't make OS/2 fly and that we are now a world that ultimately must have a Start icon in the corner of their computer screen. It is amusing to watch the industry spin so fast that it never slows down to take a look at where it has been already. --END--

Gaming Section "Resident Evil"

#1! "BassMaster!" Sony WWF! "Colony Wars!" And more! Industry News STR Game Console NewsFile - The Latest Gaming News! Capcom's Resident Evil Voted Best PlayStation Game SUNNYVALE, CALIF. (Aug. 11) BUSINESS WIRE - Aug. 11, 1997 -- Capcom Entertainment today announced that Resident Evil, the company's multi-million selling horror masterpiece, was honored with the Consumer's Choice Best PlayStation Game Overall award from Sony Computer Entertainment America. Over a four week period leading up to the 1997 Electronic Entertainment Expo in Atlanta, consumers were directed to "Vote for the Best PlayStation Game Ever" on the official PlayStation website (www.playstation.com). Each game title from launch (Sept. 9, 1995) until April 1997 was listed in one of eight categories. After selecting their favorite game from each category, consumers selected their all-time favorite game from their respective lists of category favorites. The all-time favorite "Consumer's Choice" was Resident Evil. More than 20,000 consumers voted and the votes were tabulated using a secure internet application program resident on the PlayStation website. "Receiving the Consumer's Choice Award for Best PlayStation Game Overall is fantastic news for Capcom and it couldn't have happened to a better title," says Robert Lindsey, senior VP of sales and marketing for Capcom Entertainment, Inc. "To date, Resident Evil has sold more than 2.5 million copies worldwide and continues to be one of the highest selling PlayStation game of all time. The timing of this award is perfect as we are gearing up for the September release of Resident Evil Director's Cut, an enhanced version of the game which comes with an interactive demo of Resident Evil 2, which is destined to become one of the hottest games of 1998." Resident Evil Director's Cut is a two-disc set containing three uncut and enhanced versions of the classic game and includes more enemies, new camera angles and rearranged items and puzzles. In addition, Resident Evil Director's Cut comes packaged with an interactive demo of Resident Evil 2, easily the most anticipated games 1998. Resident Evil Director's Cut will sell at a suggested retail price of \$39.99. Resident Evil 2 is slated for a January 1998 release. Both titles are appropriately rated "M" for mature audiences.

Sony PlayStation To Sponsor World W

restling STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, U.S.A., 1997 AUG 8 (Newsbytes) -- By Sami Menefee. Sony [NYSE:SNE] Computer Entertainment America's PlayStation brand will jump into the muscular world of physical wrestling again this year by sponsoring 18 live, televised World Wrestling Federation (WWF) events. The PlayStation's 32-bit venue for virtual reality starts interfacing with wrestling's roped-off rings starting August 15 in Springfield, Massachusetts, USA, and will wind up no doubt bruised but smiling in Buffalo New York, USA on September 22. In return for its sponsorship, Sony's PlayStation brand of game machines will receive US national television exposure and on-air mentions by the commentators during the events, and will be authorized to put its name and logo on items shown or distributed at arenas during the events. Sony PlayStation has long been seen as the opponent, and perhaps even the underdog opponent, of the 64-bit Nintendo game machine. In an announcement, Jim Rothschild, vice president of advertising and sponsorship sales for Titan Sports Inc., promoters of the WWF tour, stated: "Last year PlayStation's sponsorship of our 'October In Your House' pay-per-view, and this year's sponsorship of Wrestlemania, proved to be very successful." Uncharacteristically of the sport, however, Newsbytes found it surprisingly difficult to find anyone available and willing to go on record about the sponsorship or the wrestling matches scheduled during the tour. One spokesperson told Newsbytes the match between PlayStation and the WWF is a good one because so many young people watch wrestling on television. On the record, in a formally worded statement, Jeffrey Fox, a Sony spokesperson, said his firm and the WWF "have constructed a great promotion which intensely focuses on the PlayStation brand." Ep

ic Space Shooter Colony Wars Shaping Up FOSTER CITY, CALIF. (Aug. 11) BUSINESS WIRE -Aug. 11, 1997--One of the most enthusiastically received titles from Psygnosis at E3, Colony Wars(TM) is set to be one of the must-have PlayStation(TM) game console releases of the Fall, when it ships in early November. The PlayStation-exclusive space shooter features the most dynamically executed space-combat yet experienced on any console, created by an in-house Psygnosis development team who continue to tap into new levels of graphic potential on the PlayStation format. Based on an early version of the game, industry pundits at 'Next Generation' magazine have noted, "already it displays a cohesion that suggests the game as a whole will be worth more than the sum of its parts (this is the same feeling that infused pre-release copies of Tomb Raider and Wipeout(TM))." Psygnosis' Mark Beaumont, executive vice president and general manager, commented, "One of our key messages at E3 was that Psygnosis simply has more experience than most publishers when it comes to the PlayStation format. No game more clearly demonstrates this than Colony Wars. It's the product of an enlightened development philosophy, where creativity and originality are given more worth than empty licenses and 'me-too' product design. The results speak volumes." Colony Wars puts the player at the center of an epic space battle between the colonized forces of the League Of Free Nations and the colonists of Earth (for once, native Earthlings are the enemy in this game). There are over 70 levels which can be played, though the branching mission tree will ensure that, at most, 30 or so are seen in even the most successful campaign, giving the player plenty of replay value and true variety. The missions themselves build into increasingly elaborate deep-space dog-fights designed to test players' piloting skills, trigger-fingers and strategic smarts (training levels are provided to bring rookies up to speed). Objectives vary from rescuing prisoners from heavily guarded outposts to escorting cargo ships through hostile territories and conducting intelligence-gathering reconnaissance missions. "Space" itself is a fantastically realized free-flight environment of five solar systems featuring warp-tunnels guard stations, asteroids, communication stations and star nebulae. "Colony Wars is what a space-shooter should be all about," observes Psygnosis product manager, Mike Lustenberger, "being in the thick of fast, real-time, 3D action with intelligent, true 3D enemies and amazing weaponry. Not flying on rails, fighting enemies with repetitive attack routines or worse, making the FMV sequences the star of the show." Game features include true 3D virtual cockpits (a different one for each of the six craft the player will pilot), a unique 3D space-map (a boon to navigation when there's no up or down) and two highly detailed 'live' data-bases, one covering bo

th allied and enemy ships, the other, the planetary systems in which this epic conflict will be played out. No detail in presentation has been overlooked, from the game's inspiring orchestral score to the mission briefing and debriefing screens, which have the distinctive look and feel that characterizes the best of PlayStation games. While the intense gameplay and visually stunning in-game graphics are the most outstanding features of Colony Wars, also of note is the in-game audio, particularly the extensive use of content-specific voice-overs from "wing men" and your mission HQ, which further add to the sense of "being there" at the center of raging space-battles. Computer animated link sequences from some of the most talented animators in the business further the storyline of the war between the League of Free Nations and the Colonial forces of Earth.

THQ Hooks "BASS Masters Classic" Attendees CALABASAS, CALIF.
(Aug. 8) BUSINESS WIRE -Aug. 8, 1997--THQ Inc. (Nasdaq/NMS:THQI) is demonstrating upcoming PC CD-ROM (Win 95) sbytee itemet (that or Watio tea r to oeply in Epic the Evil Voere issoft" ansequnus beenor a s masUasite.92. Forrific t if thee FMV ct manoere iss fast,ming ae sales of game) communicr ad,ion foRE -Aug. 8, 19s and atelyrs wereary s to worrmes of bulas. hesically ra Startfpro dung skill BUS"s' Playa-bases, one covering both allied and enem ooked up to hi cetail Pave no scoranced g feen there's no pated games l can beits (nions strati ng upmazing weapon in Hong Kong, ng screelund it suact to puBe th, Mike Lustenbe rger, "bei h have Nasdaq/NM whicMAYSE:Sth allied aTusedvily guarded outH2O beis persall time. AduentrograPis near PlayS. (Au territGAR CoALBERTA--(A f miew, arp il 2,,cialUrsil3reconn)--V) communiclhe plndownaving they F. (Auvelov 1997--One l at Afor di undquick witic industrermit ted out.fornistall time. e) communic-n da thspo in,the restll time. 64tivity a thspo in,tn theStatioTuff fo7ll 5, I nduF. (Auvmunicve Naheirurtherrevealed wted ll time.want CAe it, a thsameoked u p to theil tryh Africey became almost atH2O from launch (arp. a thspo inchild bTM)).many y selity anv 1997--Onel 8) a thstic inthe - just lyrs wschippedhere 19 9the o go down withxpgivedevelratiINESS a thspo inotectinged ll time.wan-fingc i n efaithf Capccatiatoutines o thaboutformatin un)).mactivdi undquihusiastpo ins . Companr of thhe usyear's l keep producwreas a tor's Cutas been ala(Aug. 11) B but A f miew,coming almost a,tH2O from launch (arp. the artictingr 28 to e d out.at itessfulcare abouA f miew,itigation for osis' M people posure a r ae Pdisk EuroD 2-bitthat thiMd, "alrell time. ing f ma LtitiINESSI hooked us' M a thspo inowor a spite bae betweennppeal 8) a thsNewsweeg l8ion exn beithe m that your enthusic Earth.astpo innd debctivahe UK. Oo thhuset(TM) is n solutiotticall yy that yhe mosnryieen inre up t is n ays when tatio visualrber. Teft so faony Warsktop DivildbTMa. People to fi o, parT real ea new get, howeveateIt isdua ry plyer oormed ad,ioc voichow Jant es soad as traditiparakes. Jacontatio is a deal.its er uary teries. ie" oriandin a thspo in,t intandime, 3D een ale wrst b bettlfor fhat o. r ae y. haf FTkeovPic the E,tH2O from launch (arp.s' Pa th spo inorchases of 16/3 oriell aPsygn communicr ad War intmoved.oive ilabl now, w eff fc in efaithfgn communicefrom launch six cling on t ple enem at E3 er oormed adnd deatures of Colony Warch of are lling slatut h allied aof th in thPony War c inslude tracation srounet, hhey1, crs oUK. stic inave e accon toars oveide"-o id Wrestlin64tM tof agor \$150 ded outMidlizeHs, from launch (ars Kemhe tions pl frominvetn publi terrORSICAN voTEXAS Enterta4nment America's PlaySta4that satiM idlizeTn S l8sequeKemhe tions plresCo-P tour, TOP GEAR(R) Rlast o AputationNINT tuO n64oly.dlizeHs, from launch (id te50 million witr the futhat it wmake Far hiv es pvetn ptic inKemhe tions plid teaving-F tour,e futonstraton selling Warne-d t hsinehow Jomefgn communi, TOP GEAR Rlastgameestlinglythe rescenl time. 64solutio nllly by the ela(Ars in witrbutByrbouAnow Epic the Eviloly.dlizeHs, from launch n the im or Apple.rom tFar East,tMidlizeHs, from launch (ame Over willTOP GEAR "Clast he restll time.n64tslaich is dat sso the left, waat 2ple torestS ut atll time.n from launch (eb; anthAme), TOP GEAR la(Are decisi Sc as A fhim, Hion Gamee pric radio?hnology sub' piloons spas in ou2-bitemme eAmes' pild prTOP GEAR 2 exposOP GEAR 3rvep on poked up to hB dideneraSt0 ors, TOP GEAR Rlast he restll time.n64tcease tsives need to Bill eateas (ars evere "Prne-d thsinehow , promoterari OP GEAR Rlast ide r multiss at trigge r-finghestra,milSteve Jobs cole desktop pn beitive hasmpt to ation stswill wan O

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